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# NEWSLETTER

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Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

[www.kdla.ky.gov](http://www.kdla.ky.gov)

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## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bookmobile Program

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives and Kentucky's public libraries just completed a year long celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the state supported bookmobile and outreach services program. The Commonwealth has the largest extension program in the country.



On February 11, 2004 the Kentucky Public Library Association, with assistance from the Department for Libraries and Archives, staged "Bookmobile Day" at the Capitol. The morning began with a display of eight parked vehicles, including Kenton County's "Racing to Read" bookmobile and Grayson County's "Cybermobile," which boasts internet access. First Lady Glenna Fletcher spent time visiting them with Mardi Montgomery, Deputy Secretary of Education. At noon a caravan of sixty-two bookmobiles, with police escort, paraded to the Capitol. Even though they weren't in alphabetical order, it was impressive to see so many bookmobiles from across the state gathered at once. Most were the traditional blue and white converted step vans provided by KDLA, but a variety of colorful vehicles participated, ranging from a small hatchback, to station wagons and vans, to converted buses. Many sported decorations such as banners, flags, or "50" written with balloons or lights. There were enough to completely circle the capitol. One legislator even hitched a ride on his county's van.

The afternoon ended when bookmobile librarians were recognized on the floor of the House and given citations. Mrs. Helen Rayburn (age 95) was given special recognition as the oldest bookmobile librarian in Kentucky. The Senate recognized the state's bookmobile program for "its excellence in providing service and its impressive success and longevity."

The purpose of Bookmobile and Outreach services is to provide library services and resources to all Kentuckians, even if they are unable to travel to the library because of age, disability, poverty or lack of transportation. Every recognized public library is required to provide extension services county-wide. Resources can be delivered through bookmobiles, vans, branches or contracts with neighboring county libraries.

The program goes back to 1887, when the "Traveling Book Project" was begun by a local literary club from Louisville. From 1934 until 1943 rural residents of Eastern Kentucky were served by the Packhorse Librarians who traveled on horseback 50-80 miles a week providing reading materials to those who did not have access to them. At its peak, 30 traveling libraries served over 10,000 Kentuckians.

The modern Bookmobile program began on September 16, 1954, in a display similar to our recent parade. A mile of bookmobiles circled the Old State Fairgrounds in Louisville when 100 vehicles were presented to their recipient counties by the Friends of Kentucky Libraries. Kentucky still maintains a fleet of 105 bookmobiles and outreach vehicles because it is the most efficient and least expensive way to provide library services to those who otherwise would not be able to access them.

In November and December 2004, over 150 public library staff members attended localized workshops celebrating the Golden Anniversary. Ellen Hellard, retired Field Services Division Director, discussed the development of statewide outreach efforts in the context of public library development. Highlights included the start-up of the program and details of the silver anniversary. Current Field Services Division Director, Judith Gibbons, gave an overview of the current status of the program. Present and former staff members contributed stories and memorable moments at each gathering. Participants received a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary decal for display on each vehicle and a service pin commemorating the event.

So, while a parade of bookmobiles make quite an impressive display, it only takes one to make an impact on someone's life.

## **Bath County Memorial Library's Second Annual Spring Book Fair**

Bath County Library's Book Fair will be held on April 23, 2005 at Methodist Fellowship Hall in Owingsville from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Among the authors attending:

- Dennis Shepherd, author of "Returning Son, From Bagdad, Kentucky, to Baghdad Iraq"
- Marlis Day, Indiana author of: "Why Johnny Died", "Death of a Hoosier Schoolmaster" and most recently, "Curriculum Murders"
- Nancy Kelly Allen, children's book author of: "On the Banks of the Amazon," "Whose Food is This?," and others.
- Martha Sparks, a journalist and librarian, "Cherish the Days: Inspiration and Insight for Long-Distance Caregivers" and "Give Us This Day: Daily Hope for Caregivers."
- Bob Sloan, author of "Home Call" and "Bearskin to Holly Fork", one of KET's Book Club choices.

Authors who would like to attend can contact Library Director Brenda Vance at the Bath County Library. The list of authors will be growing, so check the library's web site: [www.youseemore.com/bath](http://www.youseemore.com/bath) for updates. Everyone is invited.

## **LSTA Grants for 2004-2005**

### **School and Public Library Partnership**

17,497.00

Green County

2,899.00

*REACHING OUT TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS* – Project aims to increase pleasure reading among kindergarten and first grade students. Library will provide programs in the classrooms; work with community organizations, and schedule special family programs in the library.

Menifee County

9,200.00

*PARTNERING TO SUCCEED* – Library will partner with the Board of Education to improve reading skills of students in grades one through five by offering regular classroom visits, inviting classes to visit the library, providing enrichment activities for Extended School Services students, and tutoring students at the library.

Whitley County

5,398.00

*ADVENTURES IN READING* – Library will implement a public awareness campaign targeting teachers, students, and families of a local school by increasing bookmobile stops at the school, scheduling class visits to the library, and planning family programs in the library.

### **Early Childhood**

17,660.00

Jackson County

4,450.00

*TEENY TINEY TOTS* – To increase the time parents and care givers spend reading to their newborns through three year olds. The library will create developmentally appropriate collections, library space, and programs in the library and in child care settings.

Kenton County

3,860.00

*BOOKS BUILD BRIGHTER BABIES* – Goal is to develop new readers and new library users among babies who are patients of Pediatric Care of Northern Kentucky and their parents. The parents will receive a bag of materials promoting reading; librarians will provide regular story times at the clinic, and a waiting room book browser will be installed.

Menifee County

6,875.00

*BABY TALK SATURDAYS* – To increase the time parents and caregivers spend reading to children from birth through three years of age and to increase their knowledge and use of library resources and services. Two new weekly library programs will be scheduled for this group.

Washington County

2,475.00

*TODDLER TALES* - The library will offer twice-monthly programs to support the social, fine motor, and linguistic development of 18 to 24-month-old children through reading and activity-based programs. The library seeks to become a resource center for parents and caregivers.

## Library Programming

59,710.00

### Bath County

7,668.00

*EARS WIDE OPEN* – Library will install audio centers throughout the library for families and children with low literacy levels and for those with English or Spanish as a second language.

### Carroll County

4,239.00

*UNDERSTANDING BODYWORK* – Several certified professionals will lead a seven-month program for 25 adults on topics ranging from nutrition, to relaxation and exercises. Project activities will include topics like yoga, chi gong, reiki, reflexology, massage, and meditation.

### Carroll County

2,765.00

*ALL ABOARD* – The library seeks to befriend teen skateboarders crowding the library parking lot. A series of instructional programs on skateboarding safety and spinal injury, making your own skateboard, videos, skateboard fashions, and demonstrations at the local park has been planned.

### Fulton County

9,993.00

*READ DISCOVER SHARE* – A series of programs targeting youth, families, and older adults through story hours, book discussions, reading incentives, book clubs, and writing workshops.

### Grayson County

4,000.00

*SHORT STORY & POETRY WRITING CONTEST* – Conduct a series of poetry and creative writing workshops for teens and adults. Contests in both categories will be held and winning entries will be published in a book for local distribution. Winning entries will be posted on the library's website.

### Hart County

10,937.00

*GET HEALTHY @ YOUR LIBRARY* - Library will partner with local agencies to promote health and nutrition at day care centers, Headstart, and a local facility for the mentally and physically challenged. Projects will include diabetic clinics, anti-drug programs for teens, a health fair; and parenting, exercise and nutrition, and smoking cessation classes.

### Letcher County

7,517.00

*WRITING & READING INSTRUCTS TEENS & ENTERTAINS (WRITE)* - Monthly teen and adult workshops focusing on writing and expression. Attendees will read their works as a method of improving literacy and public speaking skills.

### Muhlenberg County

3,483.00

*LEARN FOR FUN SERIES* - A series of Saturday programs that highlight existing library resources through topics on science fiction, preserving personal history, scrap-booking, cooking, photography, Holiday art, and quilting.

### Spencer County

2,698.00

*CAREER CHAT NIGHTS AT THE LIBRARY* – A series of programs that will introduce teens to successful career professionals. Presenters include a Radio Sky Watch

reporter, an authority on antiques, an attorney, a general practitioner, a curator of collections from the History Museum, children and adult book authors, genealogist, and an owner of the Hidden Hill Nursery, etc.

Whitley County

6,410.00

***TECHNOLOGY & LITERATURE: TOOLS FOR ENHANCING DIVERSITY***

**AWARENESS** – To provide nine hours of professional development training for twenty K-12 teachers in the county. Library will collaborate with Cumberland College and focus on diversity with the use of technology and literature. Teachers will produce learning packets for teachers to check out.

## **Celebrate Women's History Month!**

March is Women's History Month. The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives has provided a list of selected on-line sources in Women's history at <http://www.kdla.ky.gov/researchlinks/women.htm>.

State Archives Records in the KDLA Catalog provide descriptions of government records held at the State Archives in Frankfort. From the records of Kentucky's first woman governor, Martha Layne Collins, to the Kentucky Commission on Women records, to marriage records and court case files from every Kentucky county, the collections of the State Archives are rich with documentation of the lives of Kentucky women.

## **Live Homework Help**

A new service now offered in several Kentucky libraries is Live Homework Help. The project was made possible through a LSTA Online Homework Help Subgrant Project from the Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives. Live Homework Help is an online tutoring service featuring expert tutors that are certified teachers, university professors, graduate students at accredited four-year colleges and professionals who are experts in their fields. Help is available in math, science, social studies and English. Homework Help is now provided by public libraries in the following counties: Grayson, Logan, McCracken, Nelson, Ohio, Oldham, Pike, Robertson, Rowan, Shelby and Trigg.

## **Retirement Announcement**

Marjorie Flowers has retired from the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. As a regional librarian, Marjorie worked out of the Green River/Pennyryle Regional Office in Owensboro. She was also involved in a variety of projects during her 18 year tenure including the publication of the trustee manual, certification manual, editing the Public Library Newsletter, and the development of statewide standards.

## **'Cross the Commonwealth**

**Jackson County Public Library** has successfully completed the petition campaign to increase their tax rate by 2.5 cents and can now look forward to building a new library. On January 4, 2005, the Jackson County Public Library Board of Trustees accepted the bid of \$911,500 from K and K Building Company of London, Kentucky for the construction of the building and parking lot.

The **Hopkinsville-Christian County Public Library** will use a \$100,000 federal grant to update the entire nonfiction collection, and purchase a reader printer for genealogy and research. The funds will be used to purchase new math, geography, geology, life science, astronomy, social science, technology, computer science reference books and software, and current world events materials.

An award winning elephant is on display at the **Casey County Library**. The huge papier-mâché pachyderm measures 10' long from trunk to tail, 7' high and 6' wide. It was constructed by students, sponsors and parents for the 2004 Kentucky United Nations Assembly (KUNA) competition. KUNA is a 3-day conference where students portray the attitudes and dress of a United Nations member. Casey County students chose Thailand as their country and the famous elephants as its symbol. The hard work paid off when Casey County brought home first place in the region.



From December 15-31, the **Graves County Public Library** collected food for fines. The food drive was a big success! The food was collected for Needline, an organization that distributes food to those in need.

The Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce presented **McCracken County Public Library** Director Marie Liang with their 2005 Distinguished Citizen Award. Marie was nominated for the award by her library staff.

As part of an arts appreciation program, the **Marshall County Public Library** hosted a punk rock concert on Saturday, November 20, featuring two local bands, World Premiere and DisNature. Kristi Tucker, Library Director, stated that approximately 130 people attended the event. The event allowed the band members to showcase their musical talents and gave local residents the opportunity to hear these talented students.

The **Fulton County Public Library** has received a \$2000.00 donation from their local Wal-Mart.

## **Income Tax Information**

The Kentucky Talking Book Library will again provide Braille copies of the 2004 Income Tax forms this year. Call 1-800-372-2968 Ext. 276 if you know someone who needs tax information in Braille.

## Upcoming Events

### March

- 21 WorldCat Resource Sharing: The Basics – Lexington
- 22 WorldCat Resource Sharing: The Basics – Somerset or London
- 23 WorldCat Resource Sharing: The Basics – Bowling Green
- 24 WorldCat Resource Sharing: The Basics – Bowling Green
- 25 WorldCat Resource Sharing: The Basics – Paducah
- 28-April 1 Network Administrators' Boot Camp III – Hazard Community College - Hazard

### April

- 4 WorldCat Resource Sharing: Beyond the Basics – Lexington
- 5 WorldCat Resource Sharing: Beyond the Basics – Somerset or London
- 6 WorldCat Resource Sharing: Beyond the Basics – Bowling Green
- 7 WorldCat Resource Sharing: Beyond the Basics – Bowling Green
- 8 WorldCat Resource Sharing: Beyond the Basics – Paducah
- 13-15 KPLA-KLTA – Bowling Green
- 18 WorldCat Resource Sharing: The Basics – Lexington
- 19 WorldCat Resource Sharing: Beyond the Basics – Lexington
- 20 WorldCat Resource Sharing: The Basics – Somerset or London
- 21 WorldCat Resource Sharing: The Basics – Bowling Green
- 22 WorldCat Resource Sharing: Beyond the Basics – Bowling Green

## Public Library Institute

The Public Library Institute is a two-week introductory course of intensive training on a variety of library topics for new public library staff or those with little formal training. Some topics to be included are library history and philosophy, reference, technical services, material selection, customer service, outreach services, and children's and youth services. Various field trips are planned. Students must commit to attending both weeks of the Institute.

The Institute will be May 9–13 in Bowling Green and August 29–September 2 in Georgetown. Application deadline is April 22. Registration is available online at <http://www.kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/continuinged/registration05092005.htm>.

## Trustee Institutes

Make a note on your calendars. The Trustee Institutes feature former KDLA consultant Ed Klee speaking on a variety of trustee related topics. Registration information will be mailed to directors and trustees in May. The Institutes will be held at:

July 14	Thursday	General Butler State Resort Park	Carrollton
July 18	Monday	Cumberland Falls State Resort Park	Corbin area
July 19	Tuesday	Natural Bridge State Resort Park	Slade
July 26	Tuesday	Pennyrile State Resort Park	Dawson Springs area

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**Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives**

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50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bookmobile Program	1-2
Bath County Memorial Library's Second Annual Spring Book Fair	2
LSTA Grants for 2004-2005	3-5
Celebrate Women's History Month!	5
Live Homework Help	5
Retirement Announcement	5
'Cross the Commonwealth	6
Income Tax Information	6
Upcoming Events	7
Public Library Institute	7
Trustee Institutes	7

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